PROCEEDINGS OF THE MYSORE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY.

DASARA SESSION—OCTOBER 1941.

FIRST DAY.

Wednesday, 1st October 1941.

The second session of the Representative Assembly as reconstituted under the Government of Mysore Act, 1940, was held in the Jagan Mohan Palace Pavilion, Mysore, commencing at 12 of the clock, on Wednesday, 1st October 1941, Mr. President (*Rajamantrapravina* N. Madhava Rau, B.A., B.L., Dewan) in the Chair.

The President and the Vice-Presidents (Ministers) took their seats at 12 Noon precisely.

A list of members present is appended (*vide* Appendix).

The Dewan-President opened the session with the following Address :—

MEMBERS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY,

By command of His Highness the Maharaja, it is my privilege to welcome you to the second session of the Representative Assembly under the new constitution and to place before you, in accordance with precedent, an account of the administration of the State during the past year and of the more important measures likely to engage the attention of His Highness's Government in the current and coming years.

The War.

The great war in Europe has now entered the third year, and it is obvious that it is nearer the Indian frontiers to-day than we ever cared to imagine. The victory of Great Britain and her Allies is of profound importance to every one of us. The end is, perhaps, not yet in sight but there is, happily, every indication that there can be but one issue to this struggle, namely, the complete and final overthrow of the enemy and all that he stands for. To the faith in the justice of the Allied cause which sustained us during the earlier—sometimes dark—periods of the war, is now added a new hope tangibly based on a large and growing increase of fighting man-power and armaments.

We in this country cannot afford to take anything less than an attitude of the most complete and hearty co-operation in organizing and developing all those activities which are comprehended by the term 'war effort.' To make our war effort as full as we possibly can, is a duty which we owe not so much to Great Britain as to ourselves. It is not merely those who stand in the front line of battle that are making this effort, though it is to them that the chief glory of fighting for a righteous cause must belong. Those engaged in the less spectacular civil duties and industrial tasks that devolve on the people behind the lines play a no less essential and valuable part in the conflict. "The men in the factories and in the field; the civil servants and the police; the Civic Guards and the A.R.P. services; the business men who cheerfully undertake, each of them, three or four men's work

in the interests of national service ; the women workers and many others who give of their best whether in money or service"—all these various categories of citizens, as His Excellency the Viceroy reminded us recently, perform tasks which vitally affect the aggregate momentum of the country's effort.

Our own contribution to the general war effort is, after all, very little in comparison with the magnitude of the operations, but that little has been and will continue to be given in an unstinted manner and to the fullest limit of our resources.

Mysore's War Effort.

The 1st Battalion of the Mysore Infantry, which is serving with His Majesty's Forces overseas, has been brought up to the full strength of an Indian States Forces Battalion. Government have undertaken to provide reinforcements to this unit and the ultimate extra cost on this account is estimated to come to Rs. 1½ lakhs. They have also agreed to grant disability and family pensions to the officers and men of the Infantry Battalion at Indian Army rates, and also separation and emergency allowances. A mechanical transport unit, composed mostly of Mysoreans, was raised in the State and the accommodation provided for this company in the Infantry lines in Bangalore has been placed at the disposal of the Indian Defence Department. Large areas near Bangalore have also been made available for the location of Military camps and Prisoners of War camps. Mysore is actively co-operating with the Defence Department in regard to the recruitment and selection of suitable candidates for Emergency Commissions in the Indian States Forces Units.

His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to contribute for war purposes an aggregate sum of Rs. 17 lakhs from State and Palace funds. Public subscriptions to the State War Fund have so far amounted to Rs. 5½ lakhs. A squadron of aeroplanes belonging to the Royal Air Force in England has been named after the State as a token of recognition of the monetary aid which it has been extending in the prosecution of the war. It is touching to hear that the adventurous members of this squadron will go about their perilous tasks with the *Gandabherunda* as their emblem.

Early this year, Government issued a notification granting certain remissions in the court fees payable in respect of estates of Government servants who die of wounds in the present war. With a view to affording all possible encouragement to recruitment to the Mysore State Forces and the Indian army, Government have for some time been considering the question of extending certain concessions in the matter of the civil employment of persons who have volunteered for war service. The Government of India and some of the Provincial Governments have decided to leave a proportion of the vacancies in the services under their control unfilled with a view to their being made available to suitable candidates with war service. His Highness's Government have been considering the question of taking similar steps in Mysore.

A. R. P. and Civic Guards.

You will remember that the principles of the Civic Guards Act were placed before this Assembly at its session in June this year. The bill was subsequently passed by the Legislative Council and received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja. I am glad to be able to say that the movement has already made good progress and up to the end of August 1941 there were as many as 889 Civic Guards, of whom 72 were Group Commanders. The entire force has been supplied with uniforms and distinctive badges and is being suitably trained for the important duties it will have to perform.

A simple A. R. P. scheme has been prepared for Bangalore City and the question of taking similar precautions in certain other places is being considered. An Act has recently been promulgated, which places the organization on a suitable legal foundation. It is not at present intended that any large expenditure should be incurred under this head,

but it is proposed to make a beginning and train volunteers to work in concert with the services concerned and the Civic Guards. In this work, as with the Civic Guards, I feel sure that Government will receive the whole-hearted and the willing co-operation of the public.

His Highness's Tour.

Before I proceed to give a description of the work of the several Departments of Government, I may be permitted to refer to the tour in the Districts of Shimoga, Kadur and Hassan, which His Highness the Maharaja was pleased to undertake in February this year His Highness's visit was the occasion for a renewed demonstration of the feelings of deep loyalty and affection which the people of the Mysore State have always borne towards the Person and Throne of their Ruler and the members of his Family. The tour gave His Highness an opportunity to acquaint himself with the Malnad and some of its leading citizens. His Highness graciously took part in a number of public functions in the course of the tour and, as a token of his appreciation of the special needs of the Malnad and of his deep sympathy with the welfare of its people, was pleased to announce the grant of a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs to be utilised for financing special schemes of the public utility in these districts. It is the earnest wish and hope of his people that His Highness will have frequent opportunities of touring in his State and of witnessing a steady advance in its progress and prosperity under his benign Rule.

The Hon'ble Lt.-Col. J. H. Gordon.

Gentlemen, you will, I know, expect me to give expression to the regret we all feel at the approaching termination of the office of the Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel J. H. Gordon, as the Resident in Mysore. This will be the last occasion on which he will attend this Assembly in that capacity. He has taken genuine interest in all schemes and public causes of importance inaugurated in the State and has extended to us his co-operation in every direction that lay within his power. He will be long remembered as a sincere friend and well-wisher of the State and as a Political Officer gifted with sagacity, sympathy and statesmanship. He will carry with him in his retirement the warm regard of His Highness the Maharaja and the earnest wishes of the people of Mysore for his health and happiness.

Finances.

In the Revised Estimates for the year 1940-41, the total revenue and total expenditure of the State were taken at Rs. 465-66 lakhs and Rs. 464-59 lakhs, respectively, thus anticipating a revenue surplus of Rs. 1·07 lakhs. The accounts of the year, which are now practically closed, show an aggregate improvement of about Rs. 8 lakhs under Revenue and a total decrease of about Rs. 7 lakhs under Expenditure, the result thus disclosing a revenue surplus of Rs. 16 lakhs. Under Revenue, large increases are noticeable under the heads Land Revenue, Forest (including sandal oil receipts), Excise, Hydro-Electric Works, Industrial Works and Chamarajasagar and Water Works. Large decreases in Expenditure appear under Irrigation and Education.

In the Budget and the Revised Estimates of the Road Fund for 1940-41, provision was made for a temporary advance of Rs. 5 lakhs to the Road Fund on account of the estimated deficit balance. The actual deficit balance under the Road Fund at the end of 1940-41 is however, likely to stand at about Rs. 6 lakhs. To cover this deficit, a special outright grant of Rs. 6 lakhs (in addition to Rs. 13·20 lakhs already allowed) from the Revenue Account has been adjusted in the accounts of the year. A sum of Rs. 8 lakhs has also been credited to Special Reserve for Non-Recurring Expenditure to meet probable demands on account of heavy non-recurring items of expenditure in the current or coming years.

After these special adjustments, the revenue surplus in 1940-41 is likely to stand at about Rs. 2 lakhs

Seasonal Conditions.

The total average rainfall for the year was 41·53 inches, as against 44·11 inches in the previous year. The rains were timely and, except in parts of the Kolar, Tumkur and Shimoga Districts, were well distributed. Some tanks, however, did not receive an adequate supply of water, with the result that there was a failure of wet crops in certain areas and remissions aggregating Rs. 78,000 were sanctioned.

Land Revenue.

The total revenue demand for the year, including arrears of previous years, was Rs. 1,50,85,150. A sum of Rs. 1,31,59,657 (which includes amounts remitted) was collected during the year, as against Rs. 1,31,43,391 in 1939-40. The collections amounted to 87·2% of the total demand, as compared with 86·1% for the previous year.

In response to representations made on behalf of the raiyats, several measures of relief have been sanctioned of which mention may be made of the following:—

1. The special assessment levied in cases in which agricultural land is appropriated for the purpose of building dwelling houses has been waived.
2. *Hulbanni* hitherto levied by the Revenue Department has also been waived.
3. In the case of lands containing sandal trees granted for cultivation, the practice of recovering, in addition to the price, an amount representing the present value of the sandal bonus, has been discontinued.

The Record of Rights scheme has now been introduced into 76 taluks and sub-taluks, including 4 taluks taken up during the year.

The Periapatna, Alur and Harihar sub-taluks were converted into taluks with effect from April last.

The Central Depressed Class Committee met twice during the year and discussed many questions of importance to the community. Depressed Class Committees have been constituted for almost all the taluks.

Debt Conciliation Boards.

Eight Debt Conciliation Boards are now working in the State with jurisdiction over 9 taluks. The working of these Boards formed the subject of a detailed investigation by a special officer. He submitted his report to Government and orders were passed in April last on his recommendations. Government have accepted the view that Debt Conciliation Boards should be established where there are Land Mortgage Banks so that the work of the two classes of institutions may be co-ordinated. As a rule, Debt Conciliation Boards will, in future, be established only in places where Land Mortgage Banks are already working or are likely to be established. A bill will be placed before the Representative Assembly for amending the Debt Conciliation Act to give effect to other measures calculated to improve the working of the scheme.

Excise.

The revenue under Excise amounted to Rs. 56,80,510 during the year, as against Rs 53,16,798 in 1939-40. The total number of offences against the Excise and Opium laws was 4,878, of which 4,173 related to breaches of licensing conditions. The number of offences relating to illicit distillations rose from 317 to 366. One ganja, 2 arrack and 32 toddy shops were closed during the year and no new shops were opened. In furtherance of the scheme of Prohibition in operation in the Closepet Centre, seven more shops outside the Health Centre were closed. The possession of excisable articles in the Centre, including Channapatna town, has been prohibited from the 1st July 1941. The period of tapping in respect of date trees has been reduced from six to four months.

Forests.

A noteworthy feature of the working of the Forest Department during the year was the increase in the forest revenue, the orders received from the Government of India for war supplies being partly responsible for the larger realisations. The timber market, too, continued to be keen. The total demand of the Department was Rs. 26,42,224,

out of which a sum of Rs. 22,65,180 was realised, as against the budgeted figure of Rs. 21,67,400. The value of timber and bamboos supplied to the Government of India exceeded Rs. 2 lakhs. Over 1,420 tons of sandalwood were supplied to the Government Sandalwood Oil Factory and about 370 tons sold retail, the realisations in the latter case amounting to over Rs. 2 lakhs.

The Chamarajanagar Game Sanctuary was abolished and, in its place, one at Gundlupet was constituted. A Wild Life Sanctuary was also formed in the Kadur District. The work undertaken in the Forest Research Laboratory covered a large field, including wood technology, timber testing, soil analysis, biochemical investigations and plant diseases. The planting of more than 20,000 plants on the newly acquired site adjoining the Laboratory has made possible the study of sylvicultural characteristics of the species newly introduced.

Stamps.

The revenue from the sale of stamps amounted to Rs. 19,93,000, showing an increase of Rs. 77,000, and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 2,02,600.

Income-tax.

The total collection under Income-tax amounted to Rs. 32,61,620 during the year and under Super-tax, to Rs. 12,50,794, the figures for the previous year being, respectively, Rs. 20,83,683 and Rs. 9,55,789. The rate of income-tax was raised from one anna six pies in the rupee to two annas from the 1st July 1940 in respect of individuals whose annual income is Rs. 75,000 and above and of Companies with an annual income of Rs. 4,800 and upwards.

Proposals for the amendment of the Income-tax Act on the lines of the Indian Income-tax Act are under examination.

Medical Relief.

The number of medical institutions in the State rose from 337 to 358 during the year. The average area served by each institution was 83 square miles, as against 87 in the previous year, and taking the figures furnished by the latest Census, it is found that each institution caters for a population of 20,345. The total number of patients treated was 79,58,186, as against 73,81,359 in the previous year. The total number of in-patients in the hospitals was 71,313 and of out-patients 78,86,873.

Additions and improvements were effected to the Local Fund Hospital at Davangere, the Princess Krishnajammanni Sanatorium, the Victoria, Krishnarajendra and Vani Vilas Hospitals and the District Hospitals at Chikmagalur, Hassan and Shimoga.

The number of subsidised rural medical practitioners rose from 17 to 22 at the end of the year.

There is a large demand for increase of facilities for medical aid in rural parts. It is not possible to meet this demand to any substantial extent by establishing new dispensaries of an expensive type. The question of encouraging Pandits and Hakims who have received an approved course of training in Oriental medicine, is being examined. That the drugs which these practitioners use are all locally available is an argument of some importance at the present time in favour of the proposal.

Public Health.

The expenditure on Public Health and Sanitation amounted to Rs. 39·93 lakhs during the year, as against Rs. 37·61 lakhs in 1939-40.

We have outlived the days when the Public Health Department was regarded as a superfluity. One has only to look at our statistics of mortality from plague to realise how heavy is its incidence in the Mysore State. In respect of this and of malaria the need for intensifying preventive measures must be regarded as urgent.

Anti-plague inoculations and other measures for preventing plague were initiated as a result of a joint conference of the Directors of Public Health in Madras, Bombay, Hyderabad, Mysore and Coorg. An intensive anti-rat

campaign has been arranged in endemic areas of plague. Fumigation by cyanogas has also been carried out in several municipalities and rural areas. Of the activities of the Public Health Institute, special mention may be made of the preparation and supply of various types of vaccine and the pursuit of biological methods of investigation as regards the nutritive values of foodstuffs.

Anti-malaria work continued to be done in malarial tracts. Government have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 50,000 for the distribution of quinine in the Irwin Canal area, and Rs. 30,900 for draining the two valleys of Guthalu and Kallahalli. A sum of Rs. 2·55 lakhs was spent on anti-malaria work in 1940.

Public Health in the Irwin Canal Area.

The prevalence of malaria in the Irwin Canal area is a matter that has for a long time been the subject of anxious attention. This area covers portions of the taluks of French Rocks, Mandya, Maddur, Malavalli and T.-Narsipur. Before the advent of the Irwin Canal, this area, which has an average rainfall of about 25 inches, was known to be a dry and healthy tract and the incidence of malaria was hardly noticeable. Conditions have changed with the opening of the Irwin Canal ten years ago and the development of irrigation in the area. The present position is that almost the whole of the Mandya taluk and a considerable part of the Maddur taluk have been under canal irrigation for over five years; new areas in the Maddur, Malavalli and Mandya taluks have been brought under irrigation within the last five years, and a number of villages in the Malavalli taluk and in the Bannur hobli of the T.-Narsipur taluk are still to come under irrigation. Investigations into the extent of malaria in these three groups of villages have revealed that the incidence is highest in the area where irrigation has been longest, as, for instance, in the Mandya taluk. In the second group of villages where irrigation has been introduced recently, that is, within the last five years, incidence is steadily increasing, while in the last group of villages in which irrigation has yet to be started, conditions are similar to those in the pre-canal days. Thus, the seriousness of the malaria situation in the Irwin Canal area is increasing with the extension and development of wet cultivation. The lack of proper drainage in the villages and the fact that most of the tanks are overgrown with weeds are other factors which have contributed to the spread of malaria to the present dimensions. Steps have been taken to drain off the valleys, to discourage wet cultivation in the immediate vicinity of residential areas and to deplete some of the tanks. A committee of officers belonging to the Revenue, Public Health and Public Works departments is making a systematic survey of the villages with a view to determining the measures of sanitary engineering to be adopted in the area. Four itinerant dispensaries have been opened and large quantities of quinine are being distributed to the people. It is now proposed to establish regular health centres in the area to ensure sustained attention being given to malaria control work and improvement of general sanitation.

Judicial.

In the Judicial Department, disposals continued to be speeded up with the result that the number of ordinary suits more than a year old was reduced from 288 to 216, which is the lowest in any year for which figures are recorded.

Civil institutions declined by 828, or 3·1 per cent, as compared with the previous year and on the criminal side, there was a decrease of 3,259 or 10 per cent in the number of cases, and 6,181, or 12·8 per cent in the number of persons involved. There was a fall from 27,716 to 24,198, or 12·6 per cent in the number of persons convicted during the year, as compared with 1939-40.

Police.

In the Police Department, the total number of cases reported was 24,210, as against 25,482 in the previous year. The decrease of offences, serious and minor, against persons and property was due

to a better control exercised by the Police over professional criminals and members of criminal tribes. The reduction in cases under special and local laws may be attributed to a better understanding on the part of the public of the traffic and other regulations. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force was 1,089 officers and 5,726 men, and the total cost of the Police force under all heads was Rs. 22,33,800. A course in Kannada short-hand was introduced in the Police Training School in Bangalore. A special officer has been recently appointed to take necessary steps to organize the A.R.P. and other services as part of the plans to aid the general war effort.

Military.

The scales of pay and allowances of officers and other ranks in the Infantry Units were revised with a view to bringing them approximately to the level obtaining in the Indian Army. The actual combatant strength of the Mysore Army stood at 2,052 during the year.

Prisons.

The expenditure of the Prisons Department was about Rs. 2,26,000 during the year, as against Rs. 1,55,000 in 1939-40.

As you are aware, a Committee was appointed in March of last year under the chairmanship of Rajadharmapravina, Diwan Bahadur K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar to enquire into the whole question of prison administration in the State and the efficacy of the existing system, and to suggest remedies and improvements calculated to bring the machinery and methods of prison administration into greater harmony with progressive ideas on the subject of penology. In March of this year the Committee submitted a unanimous report based on a close and comprehensive study of the problem and a first-hand examination of the working of different kinds of penal institutions outside the State. The Committee has emphasised the reformative aspect of punishment and has made many valuable and interesting recommendations for overhauling the prison administration. Four Bills intended to give effect to some of the Committee's recommendations will be placed before the Assembly at this session. I wish to express, on behalf of Government, our grateful appreciation of the ability, care and thoroughness which the Chairman, Mr. K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar, and the members of the Committee have brought to bear on the conduct of their enquiry and the preparation of a most useful and comprehensive report.

Industries.

The year under review has been one of general prosperity for the industrial concerns in the State and has been marked by a considerable expansion in their activities. These activities may conveniently be considered under three main heads. In the first place, every attempt has been made to meet the needs of the Department of Supply of the Government of India and to contribute, by all means possible, to the State's industrial war effort. Secondly, advantage has been taken of the favourable marketing conditions prevailing to raise the level of normal production in these concerns and also to develop additional lines of production wherever this course was justified. This is reflected in a steady and all-round improvement in the financial condition of our industrial concerns revealed by the figures for the past year. Thirdly, every encouragement has been given to cottage industries, and there have been important developments under this head in the year under review. The industrial concerns which the State has built up or which it controls, have adapted themselves admirably to the needs of the present time and to the problems and difficulties which have necessarily arisen on account of the war.

The Hindustan Aircraft Company had the satisfaction of seeing its first plane leave the factory, airworthy in all respects, within six months of the formation of the Company. The work of construction is now reaching completion and the whole output of the factory will be available for purposes of defence.

The establishment of another new factory, the Bichromate Factory, may also be regarded as a war effort.

Meanwhile, the resources of other concerns have also been fully utilised. With the coming into effect of the Iron and Steel Order from the 1st September 1941, practically the entire output of the Bhadravati Works will be at the disposal of the Government of India. Mainly with the object of increasing war production, the Works have been further expanded. An additional open hearth furnace is being installed and orders have been placed for a strip mill at a cost of Rs. 18 lakhs. A small electric furnace is already working and furnaces for the manufacture of ferro-chrome and ferro-silicon are shortly expected. The Mysore Chemicals and Fertilisers, Ltd., continue to supply considerable quantities of ammonium sulphate and sulphuric acid, the total production in the year being 5,444 tons of sulphuric acid and 5,582 tons of ammonium sulphate. The Government Electric Factory has supplied transformers of an estimated value of Rs. 1·4 lakhs. The Electric Factory has also embarked on the manufacture, on a commercial scale, of scientific instruments, such as, dumpy levels, prismatic compasses and levelling staves. The Factory is also engaged in the manufacture of electrical accessories, such as, starters for motors, fuse bodies and detonators and industrial pressed metal ware and lamp shades for street-light fittings. The Silk Weaving Factory and the Mysore Spun Silk Mills are in a position to supply considerable quantities of parachute cloth and silk cord of the required specifications. The Government Porcelain Factory has undertaken the supply of a large quantity of crockery for war purposes, besides supplying insulators to the Telegraph and War-supply Departments of the Government of India. With the Stoneware Pipes and Potteries, the Factory has also made a beginning with the manufacture of acid-resistant ware largely in demand in munition factories.

The meeting of war requirements has not been confined to Government concerns and, wherever possible, orders have been passed on to private firms and small producers. The Department of Industries has, for example, arranged by this means for the supply of handloom blankets valued at Rs. 18,000 and shell charcoal valued at Rs. 50,000. With the object of bringing private producers into closer contact with war supply organisations, and also in order to secure necessary co-ordination, Government have now appointed a Director of Industrial Planning with the special responsibility of advising and assisting members of the public interested in meeting requirements of the Department of Supply.

In order to cope with the increasing demand for silk fabrics the expansion of the Silk Weaving Factory has been recently sanctioned. Additional winding and doubling machines were installed and 33 additional looms were purchased which, along with the necessary preparatory machines, will more than double the output of the Factory. The Mysore Silk Filatures have recently extended their activities both at T. Narsipur and Sidlaghatta. The Mysore Spun Silk Mills have also increased their production in the course of the year.

The Industrial and Testing Laboratory has striven to meet something of the growing shortage in the available supply of drugs and medical stores consequent on the restriction of imports from abroad. The sales of the Laboratory in the last year amounted to Rs. 2,32,100. The manufacture of liver extracts both for oral and intra-muscular administration and the manufacture of acetates and citrates represent two new lines of production.

The construction of an electrical kiln at the Porcelain Factory is nearing completion, and with the addition of a coal kiln, it is expected that the capacity of the Factory will rise to a thousand tons a year. The sales in the Electric Factory amounted to Rs. 4,72,882 and the Factory is expected for the first time to make a profit in the current year. Work in the Mysore Implements Factory continued to expand. The Mysore Coffee Curing Works have made good progress and handled 1,426 tons of coffee in the year, as against 850 tons in 1939-40. The question of establishing a bone-meal factory as an adjunct to

these Works is being examined. The Government Lac and Paint Works met orders to the value of Rs. 60,000 in the course of the year and also undertook the production in small quantities of printing ink, bushing compound and special paints. The sales of the Soap Factory continued to rise and this is reflected in the increased profit, which amounted to Rs. 1,35,542. Proposals for further increasing the output of the Factory are under consideration. As regards the Sri Krishnarajendra Mills, I am specially glad to be able to record that the position of the Mills can now be described as satisfactory and that the concern is likely to show a considerable working profit in the current year.

The Mysore Lamp Works have begun the production of low wattage lamps, and the manufacture of street series and high wattage lamps is under consideration. The Company has discharged its loan to Government and has accumulated sufficient working capital of its own. The difficulties which the Mysore Match Manufacturing Company and the Mysore Chrome Tanning Company felt at one time in disposing of their products proved to be temporary. The Mysore Paper Mills, Limited, had a fairly prosperous year.

Sugar Company.

The Mysore Sugar Company is one of our most successful industrial ventures. The results of its working for the year disclose a net profit of Rs. 9·55 lakhs. The Company proposes to duplicate the alcohol plant and orders for the necessary machinery have already been placed.

It gives me great pleasure on this occasion to make a reference to the services rendered by Rajamantrapravina, Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan, who is retiring from the office of Chairman of the Mysore Sugar Company at the end of the month. During the period he held this office, the scheme for the expansion of the factory to about four times its original capacity was successfully carried out and several questions of policy relating to the cultivation of sugarcane and the marketing of sugar were settled. Mr. Matthan has followed a safe and progressive policy and has ungrudgingly given to the development of this important industry the benefit of his business talent and experience. He has earned the gratitude of the public and the Government.

Government have appointed Rajasevasakta T. V. A. Isvaran to succeed Mr. Matthan as Chairman of the Company and hope that under his guidance the Company will continue to prosper in the coming years.

Sericulture.

The most important of the cottage industries is sericulture, and this is also the industry in which progress in the last few years has been most marked. The total area under mulberry has risen from 25,000 acres in 1936-37 to about 40,000 acres during the current year and the production of disease-free layings has reached a record figure of about 124 lakhs. In the year 1940-41, there were 10 Government and 40 aided grainages and one more Government grainage and ten more aided grainages are proposed to be started in the current year. The expenditure on the Department has risen to over Rs. 2 lakhs, as against Rs. 89,000 fifteen years ago. A rearing station with the object of developing foreign race seed has been established in the Biligirirangan Hills, and the question of establishing a central sericultural research station is under consideration.

Handloom Weaving.

Next to sericulture comes handloom weaving. Earnest attention was given in the course of last year to the improvement of the handloom weaving industry. Twenty yarn depots were sanctioned, at each of which a maistry was appointed, responsible, not only for the sale of the yarn, but also for instructing local weavers in new designs and in assisting them to market their goods. The business transacted in the course of the year was of the value of about Rs. 60,000. Ten more depots have just been sanctioned. A committee to examine the present position of the handloom industry and recommend measures for its

revival and development has also been appointed.

Meanwhile, the Department of Industries and Commerce has already made a start with other cottage industries, and I am glad to say that in some instances a fair degree of success has been achieved. The *Khadi* centres at Badanaval and other places and the Wool Spinning Centre at Kolar continued to work along useful lines. Special mention may be made of the tanning work done at Doddasiddavvanahalli, pottery and smithy work at Closepet, brassware at Nagamangala and mat-weaving at Hiriyur.

It has been the policy of Government, pursued consistently for many years, to give all possible encouragement to the development of these industries. With the object of assisting the Director of Industries in this work, Government have now appointed a Committee with ten non-official members and it is hoped that with their advice further expansion will be found possible. This Committee has already made some recommendations which are being examined.

Agriculture.

Our Agricultural Department has to its credit a good deal of research work on the evolution of improved strains of crops and the control of diseases and pests. By propaganda, combined with financial and technical assistance to the raiyats, it has endeavoured to turn the fruits of this research to practical account. The intensification of these efforts to reach the agriculturist has been a marked feature of the activities of the Department for the past few years and has been stimulated to no small extent by the valuable suggestions made by Sir John Russell and other authorities who have reported on the conditions of agriculture and live-stock in India.

In 1940-41, the total number of demonstration plots reached the record figure of 4,000 and there were also 78 subvention farms and 689 seed farms. A five-year scheme for increasing the production of paddy was also introduced at a cost of Rs. 20,000 per year. The value of improved seed distributed has increased tenfold in the last four years and in the current year the value of the seed was Rs. 1,10,000, as against Rs. 10,000 in 1936-37. All possible assistance has been given to secure an expansion of the acreage under money crops. The Mysore Tobacco Company has now developed its work so as to deal with 10,000 acres of tobacco per annum, of which nearly one half is in the Irwin Canal area. The introduction of long staple American cotton as an irrigated crop in the Irwin Canal area was attended with marked success, and the Department has arranged for the cultivation of 3,000 acres this year. Government have, at a cost of Rs. 1,80,000, sanctioned the installation of a factory near the Maddur Railway Station for ginning and pressing cotton grown in the Irwin Canal area.

The formation of agricultural colonies has been encouraged as an aid to the introduction of improved methods of agriculture and as a means of relieving unemployment among educated young men. A colony was established near Kalamuddanadoddi in the Irwin Canal area in July last year and has proved a marked success. The colony has also served the purpose of a demonstration farm and raiyats from neighbouring villages have closely watched the introduction of tobacco and irrigated cotton in this area and have now been induced to grow similar crops in their own holdings. It is proposed to start two more colonies on similar lines.

Increased attention has also been devoted to the problems of improvement of live-stock, and with this object the Veterinary and Live-Stock Departments have been combined, There is now a District Veterinary and Live-Stock Officer for each district, and Veterinary Inspectors at taluk headquarters have also been asked to devote a portion of their time to measures for the improvement of live-stock in selected villages in each taluk. The ranching system hitherto employed in respect of Amrit Mahal cattle is now being given up and the herds are being concentrated in a few stations where special arrangements and be made for their care, feeding and

supervision. Such stations have been opened at Hunsur in the Mysore District and at Devapura in the Chitaldrug District, and a new station has been sanctioned this year at Lakkihalli in the Tumkur District. Including the cattle stations already established at Ajjampur and Bannur, there will be in all about 2,000 cattle, from which it is hoped that an adequate supply of stud bulls and bull calves for breeding purposes will be forthcoming for the steady improvement of cattle throughout the State. With the establishment of these stations large extents of valuable land hitherto reserved for the use of Government cattle will become available for cultivation.

Sheep husbandry is very important in the agricultural economy of Mysore and during the past few years there has been a steady advance in the measures adopted for improving the yield of wool from local sheep. A new sheep farm has been opened at Garudapalya in the Kolar District and it is hoped that from this farm it will be possible to keep up a continuous supply of cross-bred rams to sheep farms throughout the District. A scheme for the improvement of Mysore sheep inaugurated by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research has also been begun at the Yellachihalli Sheep Farm. The policy of establishing sheep breeders' associations is being extended so as to secure to sheep farmers higher prices for wool as a result of improved marketing. Two such associations were founded in 194-041 at Bangalore and Channarayapatna and with the older ones at Kolar, Mysore, and Closepet, there are in all five such associations in the State.

Considerable progress was also made in regard to the introduction of improved breeds of poultry at various places in the State. In order to assist poultry farmers Government have sanctioned a Poultry Association for the whole State, and a beginning has been made on the marketing side with an egg marketing station at Devanhalli. Meanwhile, the research section dealing with poultry diseases has been further extended and work was commenced in the current year in accordance with the scheme drawn up by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

Fisheries.

A Fisheries Section has now been established as part of the Department of Agriculture for exploiting the fishery resources of the State with a view to increasing the food supply in the country. A sum of Rs. 13,500 has been sanctioned for equipment and for the construction of fish ponds at Thippagondanahalli and Marconahalli.

Marketing.

A separate Marketing Department was constituted during the year in order to deal effectively with activities connected with the marketing of agricultural produce. The rules under the Agricultural Produce Markets Act of 1939 were brought into force with effect from the 18th July last. A sum of Rs. 84,000 has been sanctioned towards the cost of acquisition of lands, laying out of sites and the construction of buildings for the proposed regulated market for cotton and groundnut at Davangere. The possibility of starting grading stations for eggs, creamery butter, figs, groundnut oil and rice is being investigated. Arrangements have been made to broadcast daily through the "Akashvani" the prices of important commodities. The possibilities of establishing regulated markets, opening of grading stations, improvement of containers and methods of packing, improvement of transport and storage facilities, organization of a market news service and co-operative marketing, are also receiving attention.

Co-operation.

We have at present about 2,000 societies with about 1,45,000 members, a share capital of Rs. 54 lakhs and a total working capital of Rs. 265 lakhs. They attracted deposits amounting to Rs. 125 lakhs during the year, issued loans to the extent of Rs. 132 lakhs and made a profit of about Rs. 4 lakhs. The reserve fund built up by them amounts to Rs. 37·5 lakhs.

Ten new Land Mortgage Societies were started during the year, bringing the total number to 52. The operations of the Land Mortgage Bank now extend to over 50 taluks and the Bank has so far issued loans aggregating Rs. 16·5 lakhs.

It is a matter of keen regret to Government that Rajasabhabhushana, Diwan Bahadur K. R. Srinivasiengar, who was connected with this Bank as its Chairman from its inception, decided to relinquish the office some time ago. It is with very sincere pleasure and some personal knowledge of the Bank that I acknowledge the very valuable services he has rendered as its Chairman for over ten years and his important contribution towards the building up of the system of land-mortgage banking in the State. The agriculturists of the State owe a debt of gratitude to him for his spirit of service and his indefatigable labours which have enabled the Bank to stabilise its position and extend its activities from year to year.

An important feature of the work of the Department during the past year was the development of co-operative marketing of agricultural produce. The Chief Marketing Officer in Mysore was appointed Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies so far as marketing societies are concerned. A new Cocoanut Marketing Society was organised, and the Areca Marketing Society and the Ganjam Figs Marketing Society were further developed. The question of organising societies for the marketing of paddy in the T.-Narsipur, Chikmagalur, Tirthahalli and Belur taluks is being investigated. Some rural credit societies are being encouraged to interest themselves in the marketing of commodities for their members as a supplementary activity.

The question of amending the Mysore Co-operative Societies Act with a view to improving the general tone of the movement is under consideration. Meanwhile, a Standing Advisory Committee has been constituted to advise the Registrar generally in matters relating to co-operation.

Education.

The most important measure of educational development during the period under review was the passing of the Elementary Education Act, 1941, which provides for the expansion and improvement of primary education in the State. Orders have already been issued sanctioning the opening of 250 new schools in the current year. In the course of the next four years it is proposed to open a thousand new primary schools so that every important village in the State with a population of 500 in the Maidan taluks and of 300 in the Malnad will have a school of its own. To cope with the additional inspection work, 20 more Inspectors have also been appointed and a special Deputy Director of Public Instruction has been assigned the duty of exercising general supervision over the working of primary schools.

One of the first reforms introduced with the resumption of control of primary education by Government was the revision of the salaries of school teachers so that the stagnation, which has for many years tended to discourage initiative and enthusiasm among our teachers, might be removed. The enhancement of salaries of primary school teachers has involved an annual average additional cost of Rs. 1,92,324. The revision also applies to teachers of middle and high schools as to Assistant Inspectors, for whom progressive time-scales have been introduced at an estimated additional average cost of Rs 83,000.

The efficiency of primary education is of even greater importance than the numerical increase of primary schools. It cannot be gainsaid that a not inconsiderable part of the much regretted 'wastage' in that grade of education is due to the present content and methods of primary education being divorced from ordinary life and activity. The need for examining and suitably remodelling the education given at this stage so that it may be vitally related to the natural interests of the children and to the life around them is now recognised on all hands. On one aspect of this question we had a very interesting discussion at the last session of this Assembly. The Department of Education has taken this matter in hand,

and a representative committee consisting of educationists and publicists is to be set up shortly to examine the present curriculum, the courses of studies and general methods of work in primary schools.

While Government have embarked upon a far-reaching scheme for the expansion of primary education, a systematic campaign has been conducted by several private bodies against adult illiteracy. The Mysore Literacy Council, which contains representatives of the Mysore Municipal Council, the University Union and the Department of Public Instruction, has, in the course of the year during which it has worked, achieved substantial results, not only in Mysore, but also in other towns and in forty-three villages in the State. The Bangalore City Literacy Committee has undertaken similar work. With the object of encouraging these important activities, Government have made a grant of Rs. 7,000 to the Bangalore and Mysore organizations. Government have also approved of a scheme for starting rural libraries, a beginning being made in at least one model village in each taluk. Provision has been made for the grant of half the cost of these libraries up to a maximum of Rs. 50 a year in each case and a list of suitable books has been suggested by the Department of Public Instruction.

The need for the expansion of middle school education is equally insistent. The income from tuition fees, which it is proposed to levy in certain areas, will not go very far in providing funds for this purpose. The question of encouraging the establishment of aided schools in the villages rather than Government schools, which are more expensive but not necessarily more efficient, is engaging the attention of Government. The villagers are, in many cases, so eager to see their sons educated to the middle school standard that they will be quite prepared to pay substantial fees to supplement the grant-in-aid paid to the teacher by Government. The scheme should appeal to some of our educated young men in the cities and towns who find it difficult to obtain employment, if they are content to live in the villages on a moderate income.

University.

Five thousand students received instruction in the various constituent colleges of the University in 1940-41, as against 4,239 in 1939-40. A new building for the Intermediate College at Shimoga is under construction. A site has been selected for the Intermediate College building at Tumkur.

The University Settlement made considerable progress and has succeeded in enlisting the active and enthusiastic co-operation of a large number of undergraduates in social work. The members of the Mysore University Union conducted literacy classes for adults in more than 50 centres in Mysore City and neighbouring villages. Four hundred students of the University received military training during the year. An Honours course in Political Science has been instituted. The revision of the course of study for the L.M.P. Diploma is under consideration. Sanction has just been accorded to the scheme of instituting Doctorate Degrees in the Faculties of Arts, Science, Engineering and Medicine to be awarded in recognition of original research work. The Indian Economic and Political Science Congress met in Mysore in December 1940 and was opened by His Highness the Maharaja. The Silver Jubilee of the University was celebrated in July 1941. His Highness the Chancellor addressed the Special Convocation held in connection with this event.

Technological Institute.

The number of students receiving training in the several courses in the Sri Krishnarajendra Technological Institute was 76, as against 74 in 1939-40. The students of the Diploma and Certificate Courses were taken out on an educational tour to centres of textile industry and engineering works in Sholapur, Bombay and Ahmedabad. The recurring expenditure per pupil in

the Institute worked out at approximately Rs. 560 per annum.

Broadcasting.

The question of establishing a suitable broadcasting station in the State has engaged the attention of Government for a long time. In November 1939, Government passed orders directing the establishment of a 5 KW shortwave broadcasting station at Mysore with a small transmitting station in Bangalore. A building specially designed for the purpose is under construction at Mysore and pending the purchase of the full equipment required for the station, which will necessarily take time, it is proposed to make a beginning with the scheme by taking over the existing equipment of the "Akashvani," which will serve as the nucleus of the station to be established on the return of normal conditions.

Public Works.

The Department of Public Works completed during the year the construction of ten civil buildings at a total estimated cost of Rs. 17,16,000. Chief of these were the Cheluvamba Hospital and the Central Railway Offices at Mysore and the District Offices and the General Hospital at Mandya.

Nine buildings at a total estimated cost of Rs. 7,31,700 were in various stages of progress and they included the Transformer House in the Government Electric Factory in Bangalore, the Intermediate College at Shimoga and the Crawford Hospital at Saklespur.

The foundation stones of the Intermediate College at Shimoga, and the Crawford Hospital at Saklespur were graciously laid by His Highness the Maharaja in February last.

An aerodrome at Mysore is under formation at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,31,000.

An extensive programme of asphalting, premixing or cement-concreting the important roads was taken up during the year, and a total sum of about Rs. 7 lakhs was spent on these works. A Road Reclassification Committee has been constituted to examine the question of reclassifying District Fund and State Fund roads to suit present conditions. The bridge over the Tunga river at Tirthahalli, of which the corner stone was laid by His Highness the Maharaja in February last, was completed at a cost of over Rs. 2 lakhs. His Highness also laid the foundation stone of another bridge over the Bhadra river at Kalasa which is estimated to cost Rs. 1 lakh. Work on this bridge was started during the year.

With a view to laying out City extensions in Bangalore, a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been set apart in the budget.

Irrigation.

The works connected with the Marconahalli reservoir in the Tumkur District and the Anjanapur reservoir in the Shimoga District were completed. These reservoirs were constructed at a cost of over Rs. 40 lakhs and an extent of over 12,000 acres has so far been brought under irrigation. Five new projects, chief of which is the construction of a reservoir across the Kanva river near Channapatna, were started during the year at an estimated cost of Rs. 24 lakhs and will, when completed, bring an additional extent of about 3,000 acres under cultivation.

The work on the several branches of the Irwin Canal made satisfactory progress. A total area of 60,000 acres has so far been brought under irrigation under the canal out of about 80,000 acres for which water was made available. With the extension of irrigation facilities to new areas, it became necessary to encourage the cultivation of other commercial crops in place of sugarcane in those areas which are not within easy distance of the Sugar Factory. Government have now accorded sanction to the introduction of a modified system of irrigation in the new area under the Irwin Canal for growing commercial crops, such as, cotton and tobacco. An extent of 14,000 acres has been reserved for this purpose. An important means of stimulating cultivation is the opening

up of the area by communications, and 262 miles of roads, involving an outlay of about Rs. 6 lakhs, have so far been opened in the Irwin Canal area.

The restoration and proper maintenance of minor tanks, on which the prosperity or our raiyats so largely depends, is a matter to which Government attach the utmost importance. They realise that it would not be in accord with the progressive irrigation policy which they have been pursuing if in their pre-occupation with the prosecution of large new irrigation projects, these minor tanks were allowed to fall into neglect. They accordingly appointed in July last a Committee, with the Revenue Commissioner as Chairman, to review the whole position and suggest measures calculated to secure greater progress in the restoration of minor tanks. The Committee has submitted comprehensive proposals in this direction, and these are under the active consideration of Government.

Electrical Department.

The work of the Electrical Department continued to expand during the year. The gross revenue increased by 11·35 per cent and the power generated by 6·63 per cent. The gross receipts of the Department were Rs. 85·33 lakhs, against Rs. 76·36 lakhs in 1939-40, while the net revenue was Rs. 55·95 lakhs, or an increase of about Rs. 7 lakhs over the figure for the previous year.

Both the generating units of the Shimsha project have been put into service, thus relieving the pressure on the works at Sivasamudram. The total outlay on the Shimsha project amounted to Rs. 57·16 lakhs.

The construction of the first circuit of the Jog Transmission Line between Shimoga and Talaguppa was completed and power was supplied to Jog and Hirebhasgar.

The extension of the Bangalore City Automatic Telephone Exchange to provide for another 400 subscribers is likely to be completed during the current year after the receipt of the required equipment. The net return, including contribution to the depreciation fund, works up to 5·64 per cent, as against 4·79 per cent in the previous year. The question of providing 200 more telephones in the Mysore City is under consideration.

Eleven more towns and villages were electrified during the year bringing the total number of towns and villages enjoying the benefits of electricity in the State to 215.

Jog Fall Project.

The Hydro-Electric and Irrigation Committee met four times during the year and finally selected a site for the location of the station for the generation of electric power from the Jog Falls. The proposals of the Committee have been accepted by Government and sanction has recently been accorded to a comprehensive estimate for Rs. 280 lakhs for the whole project. Of this, a sum of about Rs. 70 lakhs represents the cost of construction of a dam at Hirebhasgar. The work is in progress. A new road running entirely in Mysore territory, has been laid from Talaguppa to Jog. Special attention has been paid to sanitation and health in the labour colonies. His Highness the Maharaja was pleased to visit the Works last February.

The inauguration of the scheme for generating power from Jog Falls, which has been under consideration for a long time, has been largely helped by the devoted labours of the Committee who have spared no pains to investigate the question in all its bearings. I cannot conclude this portion of the address without expressing the grateful thanks of Government to the Chairman and the members of the Committee for their helpful advice and suggestions.

Railways.

The newly constructed Sagar–Talaguppa section of the State Railway, which covers a distance of 9·51 miles, was thrown open for traffic in November 1940. This extension has added to the

facilities of travel available in that part of the State and will no doubt serve as a means of opening out the Malnad. The construction of this line has also facilitated the prosecution of the Jog Falls hydro-electric scheme which is now under way.

The traffic survey of the proposed Chamarajnagar–Satyamangalam–Mettupalayam line has been carried out by the South Indian Railway, in association with the Mysore State Railway and the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

The gross earnings of the Mysore State Railway, including the lines worked by the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, amounted to Rs. 94·58 lakhs in 1940-41, showing an increase of Rs. 7·45 lakhs over the figure for the previous year. This increase in earnings is due partly to the general improvement in traffic and partly to the imposition of a surcharge from the 1st March 1940.

Mines.

The total working expenses during the year amounted to Rs. 62·52 lakhs, or Rs. 5·43 lakhs more than in 1939-40.

The total output of gold from the Kolar Mines in 1940-41 was estimated at 278,527 ozs. and the total output of fine silver, at 23,298 ozs. The approximate total net value of the two minerals is Rs, 3,12,89.269 and the total royalty expected for the year is Rs. 20,52,706, as against Rs. 24,35,205 (revised) in 1939-40. Under the Duty on Gold Act, a sum of Rs. 25,48,444 is estimated to be payable by the Mines.

The public continued to evince a practical interest in the development of mineral resources, Altogether 70 applications were received during the year for working manganese, mica, kaolin and other minerals. Mineral surveys over an area of about 680 sq. miles were carried out in different parts of the State for bauxite, felspar, limestone, kaolin and refractory clay. Along with the mineral surveys, an area about 500 sq. miles in parts of Sagar taluk was geologically surveyed and mapped.

Village Panchayets.

There were 12,028 Panchayets in the State at the end of the year, as against 11,941 in 1939-40. The demand for the year, inclusive of arrears, amounted to Rs. 59,71,000, but only a sum of Rs. 14,14,000 was actually collected. The expenditure incurred by the Panchayets amounted to Rs. 11,75,000. Government made a grant of Rs. 1,61,000, of which a sum of Rs. 30,000 was allotted to the Malnad villages in the Hassan, Kadur and Shimoga Districts. Although the collections of the Panchayets show an increase over last year's figures, the arrears continue to be heavy, the balance being Rs, 45,57,000. The cash balance at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 24,76,000. Government have sanctioned, as an experimental measure, a scheme of regular audit of the accounts of some Panchayets.

Government sanctioned a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs for financing the programme of constructing drinking water wells. During the year, 1,215 wells were completed, and 2,720 well works were in various stages of progress. The total outlay on well works was Rs. 5,52,000.

A comprehensive scheme for improving inter-village communications was brought into force during the year. A sum of Rs. 4 lakhs was provided for this purpose, of which a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs was distributed among the several districts. A similar allotment of Rs. 4 lakhs has been made in this behalf in the budget for the current year. Committees have been formed in each district to implement the working of the scheme. It is expected that in the next few years considerable progress will be achieved in the improvement of rural communications.

District and Taluk Conferences.

District and Taluk Conferences were well attended and the members evinced keen interest in the various problems affecting the rural population. Subject committees were formed and in almost all the districts Standing Committees have been appointed to watch the

progress in respect of the subjects discussed. As adjuncts to these conferences exhibitions were organised, and they proved to be very attractive and useful to the public.

District Boards.

Eight District Boards in the State were reconstituted with effect from the 1st June 1940. The old Mysore District Board was bifurcated consequent on the bifurcation of the District. The total strength of the members of the Boards as reconstituted was 259. The income and expenditure of the Boards during the year amounted to Rs. 17,79,773 and Rs. 15,80,408, respectively. Though the expenditure was well within the income, the general financial condition of the District Boards in the State continues to be unsatisfactory.

A sum of over Rs. 9 lakhs has been spent in the Chitaldrug District from the Railway Cess funds on roads and other works according to the five-year programme sanctioned by Government. In the Kadur District, two roads and three bridges have been completed at a total cost of Rs. 68,435. Similarly, five works have been completed in the Tumkur District. The construction of a bridge over the river Suvarnavati in the Chamarajnagart aluk at a cost of Rs. 64,000 has been sanctioned.

Municipalities.

There were 40 Town and 63 Minor Municipal Councils during the year. The terms of office of the Municipal Councils having expired, general elections were held in almost all Municipalities and the elections aroused keen popular interest. One more Municipal Council, namely, the Nanjangud Town Municipal Council, was allowed the privilege of electing its own President, while non-officials were appointed as Presidents in the case of two minor Municipal Councils, namely, Jagalur and Hosadurga.

A total grant of Rs. 3,25,000 (in addition to the special allotment of Rs. 2 lakhs for the Malnad) was sanctioned for water supply and other schemes of the several Municipalities. Water supply schemes sanctioned for Chitaldrug, Belur, Channarayapatna, Channagiri, Sagar, Harihar and Hiriyur were in various stages of progress, while projects for the improvement of water supply to Kolar, Shimoga, Chikmagalur, Arkalgud, Saklespur, Chintamani, Tumkur, Chamarajnagar, Bhadravati, Holalkere and Saligrama were either taken in hand or under consideration. A comprehensive drainage scheme, estimated to cost about Rs. 41 lakhs, has been sanctioned for Bangalore City, the cost being met by the City Municipality and Government in equal proportions. A provision of Rs. 3 lakhs has been made for the work in the budget for the current year towards Government's share of the cost and the allotment of a sum of Rs. 3½ lakhs is proposed to be made in the coming year. The scheme has been making good progress.

The Bangalore City Municipal Council was reconstituted in January 1941. An event of outstanding importance during the year was the State-entry into Bangalore City of His Highness the Maharaja on the 4th November 1940, which was the first after His Highness's Pattabhishekam.

Census.

The eighth Decennial Census was taken on the 1st March 1941. The figures reveal some important features. The population of the State, including the Civil and Military Station, which stood at 65·57 lakhs in 1931, has increased to 73·29 lakhs in 1941, showing an increase of 12 per cent during the last decade, as compared with 9·7 per cent during the previous decade. Towns and cities alone are responsible for an increase of 3 lakhs out of the total increase of 8 lakhs for the whole State. The Cities of Bangalore and Mysore account for an increase of 2 lakhs. The most remarkable increases are in Tumkur, Tiptur, Mandya, Chitaldrug, Davangere, Hassan, Chikmagalur, Shimoga and Bhadravati. On the other hand, the population in certain Malnad taluks, such as, Shikarpur, Sorab, Nagar and Tirthahalli, continues to decline.

The Hindu, the Muslim and the Christian communities form 91·2, 6·6 and 1·5 per cent of the total population, as compared with 92·2, 6·1 and 1·3 per cent, respectively, in 1931.

There has been an appreciable increase in the percentage of literates during the last decade. The number of literates among the Hindus has increased from 4·88 lakhs to 7·83 lakhs, among the Muslims from ·67 lakh to 1·14 lakhs, and among the Christians from 31,000 to 47,000. The percentage of literacy for the whole State is 13·0 as compared with 9·1 in 1931.

Stores Purchase Committee.

The total value of orders placed by the Stores Purchase Committee in India and abroad during the year was Rs. 46,70,000, as against Rs. 63,29,000 during the previous year. There was naturally some decline in the total value of purchases made in foreign countries on account of the war. The average prices paid during the year were, for the same reason, higher than during previous years.

Labour Problems.

The Government have, since we last met, felt it incumbent on them to take special measures by passing the Mysore Labour (Emergency) Act, 1941, which is now coming up before you for consideration. We have also established a Labour Department, both for the purpose of the carrying out of this Act, and for the promotion generally of the welfare of labour and the speedy settlement of disputes. In our capacity as employers of labour we have done much in the provision of housing and sanitation and other amenities. The amount expended in this connection in the case of the Bhadravati Works is no less than Rs. 5 lakhs. We have also granted an allowance of Re. 1 a month from the 1st September to the 31st December 1941 in the first instance to all Government employees and employees in factories which are either the property of Government or in which Government have a concern, drawing a pay of Rs. 25 or less.

Meanwhile, some of the enlightened private employers have also given a number of concessions to their labourers. The labourers on their part are busy forming Unions, and I hope that the time is not so far distant as sometimes appears when men directing these Unions, who have a thorough knowledge of the labourers' point of view, will be welcomed by the associations of employers as helpers in the working out of new schemes of development, and will not be regarded, as they are so apt to regard themselves at present, as having no object in existence except the extorting of concessions by threat of strike. It is perhaps needless to say that the relations between labour and capital, like conjugal relations, are a matter of mutual consideration and understanding. They cannot be greatly improved by legislation or by the intercession, however disinterested, of third parties.

I might add that the whole question of the rise in the prices of food grains is a matter which is constantly under the consideration of Government, who have every intention of taking action to control profiteering or the charging of prices not warranted by genuine economic causes.

Conclusion.

And now, lastly, a word as to ourselves. You have asked that one session at least of this body should be held in Bangalore, and I am glad to be able to tell you that arrangements are being made in respect of the next session accordingly.

For the present session, we have a very full programme including more than twenty Bills, as well as a large number of questions and resolutions. There is just one word I should like to say with regard to these. Parliamentary procedure is an extraordinarily complex affair, made up as much of unwritten as of written laws. In some countries we hear of 'hereditary legislators,' who, we may presume, inherit an instinct for legislation through some process which the psychologists could perhaps explain to us. Any endeavour to reduce this mass of case law and tradition to a code

must necessarily be incomplete, and we have to let our procedure, like Freedom itself, "broaden down from precedent to precedent." In conditions like these it is not surprising that the questions, resolutions and motions set down for consideration show many departures from the strictly correct procedure, and many of them might under a rigid adherence to the rules, be disallowed. We are not applying the rules so rigidly on this occasion, but I take this opportunity to appeal to you for the future to do your best to adhere more closely to the rules and conventions of parliamentary procedure. I would in this connection commend for the consideration of the members the formation of a study circle for this purpose, in which officials and non-officials could join to their mutual benefit. I may add that Government have sanctioned funds for a library of reference books which will be available for the use of members of both Houses.

The inauguration of the new constitution has not failed to quicken the tempo of reforming zeal on the part of our officers, no less than of some of our public men interested in nation-building activities. They have found a common meeting ground in various committees and are striving together to find ways and means for improving village industries, labour conditions and so on. The field for such beneficial mutual co-operation is, indeed, vast and I have every hope that, as we go along, we shall cover an ever increasing area. In whatever we do, and much of it must be done together, let our objects be worth while and our methods practical.

Mr. C. K. VENKATARAMAIAH (Kannada Translator to Government) then read the Kannada version of the Dewan's Address.

Military Sports and Adjournment of the House.

Nawab SHER KHAN brought to the notice of the President that Military Sports were being held in the City in connection with the "Defence of India Week"; that His Excellency the Governor of Madras was attending the function that afternoon and that His Highness the Maharaja would be distributing the prizes the next day, and requested that with a view to enabling members to witness the function which was an unique one, the Assembly be adjourned at 3 P.M., on both the days

Rao Bahadur M. RAMASWAMY and **Mr. F. C. DEVARAJ URS** supported the request and added that the Assembly might meet in the morning on the following day.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH suggested that the election to the House Committee fixed to be held at 4 P.M., on the 2nd October, might be postponed to the same hour on the 3rd *idem*.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY said that if the House was to adjourn for two half-days, the session would have to be extended correspondingly.

The PRESIDENT agreed to this view. He however wanted to know the sense of the Assembly whether it would not be sufficient to adjourn the House in the afternoon of any one day.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH requested that the members should be given a chance to attend the function on both the days and contribute to the War Fund as much as possible.

Mrs. W. H. THEOBALD said that the programme for each day was different and of varying interest. Members attending the sports on both the days would be helping the war effort in some measure. Much had not been done in this direction so far, and she therefore urged that members be given an opportunity of witnessing the sports on both the days.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY pointed out that if the hours were altered without sufficient previous notice, it would considerably inconvenience certain party meetings which were generally held in the mornings. Such meetings were necessary from day to day as members had to decide the course of action they should adopt in respect of the various matters coming up for discussion in the House.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI, speaking on behalf of the Muslim party, said that he

had no objection to the meeting being held in the morning of the 2nd October, provided the election to the House Committee was postponed to the 3rd *idem*.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the House might rise at 4 p.m., for the day and meet from 12 noon to 3 p.m., the following day.

Swearing in of New Members.

The following members made the prescribed Oath of Allegiance and took their seats :—

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda, B.A., B.L. (Minister for Local Self-Government and Public Health);
Mr. N. Venkatagiri Rao *alias* Venkatagiriappa (Tirthahalli —Rural) ;
Mr. T. K. Perumal (Labour).

Secretary's Report.

The SECRETARY reported to the House that the following Acts had received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja on the dates specified against them :—

1.	The Registration of Foreigners (Amendment) Act, 1941. ...	16th July 1941.
2.	The Civic Guards Act, 1941. ...	,,
3.	An Act to apply to Mysore the provisions of the Indian Soldiers (Litigation) Act, 1925. ...	,,
4.	The Mysore European British Subjects Reinstatement Act, 1941. ...	,,
5.	The Railway Lands (Employment of Foreign Forces) Act, 1941. ...	,,
6.	The Sale of Goods (Amendment) Act, 1941. ...	,,
7.	The Matches (Excise Duty) (Amendment) Act, 1941. ...	,,

Installation of more Microphones in the Hall.

Mr. N. RAMA RAO brought to notice that the proceedings of the House could not be followed by him and probably by many others, due partly to some defect in the accoustic properties of the Hall and partly to the size of the Assembly. It appeared to him essential that in a Hall accommodating over 300 members, there should be installed several microphones at definite places so that members desirous of speaking might go to the microphone nearest to them and speak before it. Of the business so far transacted, he said that only the Dewan's Address was heard but practically all the members in the rear rows had been unable to follow the rest of the proceedings.

Several other **MEMBERS** agreed with the previous speaker.

The PRESIDENT said that the suggestion would be given effect to.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Loss and Damage of Goods in Railway Transit.

Q.—18. **Mr. U. L. RAMACHANDRA RAO** (Mysore—Urban).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the number of applications received from parties claiming compensation for loss and damage of goods on account of railway parcels and goods tampered with during transit in the different railway stations in the State for the years ending 30th June 1940 and 30th June 1941 (The figures for Bangalore and Mysore Cities may kindly be furnished separately) ;

(*b*) the number of claim cases pending before the Mysore Railway authorities at the end of June 1940 and of June 1941 ;

(*c*) the total amount covered by the above claims during the years ending 1940 and 1941, debitable to Mysore Railway ;

(*d*) the amount granted by the Railway authorities towards the claims